



Borough of
Morecambe and Heysham



REPORT

of

The Medical Officer
of Health

for the year ending

31st December, 1952



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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Morecambe and Heysham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
of the Borough of Morecambe and Heysham.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the health services of the Borough during 1952.

The form of the report and the matters dealt with are in accordance with the wishes of the Ministry of Health.

1952 was a year with a satisfactory health record in the Borough and the incidence of infectious diseases was low. There was no death from any notifiable infectious disease, there was but one case of poliomyelitis, the number of new cases of tuberculosis was the lowest for many years and for the sixth successive year there was no case of diphtheria. One case of paratyphoid fever fortunately gave rise to no subsequent cases.

Work on the new sewerage scheme pursued its steady course and is summarised in a report kindly supplied by the Resident Engineer. The inconvenience and discomfort inevitably suffered by many people, and over a long time, is very patiently borne.

The supervision of food and the processes of its manufacture, preparation and sale and the persistent encouragement of manufacturers and traders in the improvement of buildings and equipment make up a large part of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors. In such a town as Morecambe and Heysham it is a work of the very highest importance, the results of which, when all goes well, are not, perhaps, very obvious to the public, but failure in which could have very painful consequences. Failure could occur in spite of the most conscientious work, for the number of Inspectors is small in relation to the trade in meals and food during half the year.

A housing problem that is slowly coming forward is that presented by people living in property which is below accepted standards of fitness and which cannot be made fit. In a

city with a large programme of new house building each year it is possible to reserve a section of the new housing for the purposes of slum clearance, but here that is barely possible. Occasionally a very bad old house can be closed and the family rehoused, but it is only very occasionally. To deal with any street or group of substandard houses would mean suspending the rehousing of those in rooms for many months, and there is little doubt but that great indignation would be caused by the demolition of houses which, although they are substandard, do provide separate homes—in the eyes of many people homes that are still something better than shared rooms.

The start that has at last been made in modernising the Public Cleansing depot will be welcomed and it will be noted that the plans are based on an estimate of the requirements for a generation ahead.

At the end of the report will be found a Meteorological Report for 1952 for which I am indebted to Mr. Cooper, the Baths Superintendent and Meteorological Officer.

To those officers from various departments who have assisted me to compile this report I am grateful, as I am to the staff of the Health Department itself for their continuous help throughout the year. I record with pleasure, also, the support and appreciation of the Health Committee and of the Council.

I must end this introduction, however, sadly. Since my last report Alderman Walter Townsley has died. Alderman Townsley, held in high respect and true affection throughout the Borough, had been Chairman of the Health Committee for over twenty years. His pride in the progress of Morecambe and Heysham during the past thirty years — and he was very fond of the town and its people — was accompanied by a modest, engaging pleasure in his memories of the part he himself had played in making progress possible. His main interest had always been in public health and public cleansing and whatever is up-to-date and well done in these matters today should be credited in large measure to his constant interest, stimulation and encouragement. He had been greatly pleased by the the appointment of a Cleansing Superintendent and the consequent reorganisation of the cleansing services

and had hoped to retain his chairmanship just long enough, perhaps for another year, to see the new buildings put up at Acre Moss Lane and White Lund. That hope was disappointed; but when the new buildings are up and the new plant is working they will serve the memory of one who himself served well. He was a Chairman for whom people did their best, not through fear of reproof, but through fear of hurting by disappointing him.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. F. LYLE,

Medical Officer of Health,

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area in acres (not including foreshore)	3,665
Population — Preliminary Census, 1951	36,709
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-year 1952)	36,300
Number of inhabited houses Census, 1931	5,749
Number of inhabited houses, 1952 (according to rate books)	11,494
Rateable value	£325,803
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,312

SUMMARY OF VITAL SATISTICS

Births

Total Live Births — 416

	Male		Female
Legitimate	194	...	199
Illegitimate	9	...	14
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	203	...	213

Total Still births — 6

Legitimate	4	...	2
Illegitimate	—	...	—

Deaths

Total Deaths — 607

Male deaths ... 287 Female deaths ... 320

Deaths of Infants under one year of age — 13

Legitimate	9	...	4
Illegitimate	—	...	—
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	9	...	4

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age — 10

Legitimate	7	...	3
Illegitimate	—	...	—
	—		—
Total	7	...	3

Puerperal Deaths — Nil

Deaths from Cancer (including Leukaemia) — 104

Cancer of :

	Male		Female
Stomach	13	...	6
Lung, bronchus	13	...	9
Breast	—	...	11
Uterus	—	...	2
Other sites	27	...	23
Leukaemia	—	...	1
	—		—
Total	53	...	52

Deaths from Certain Infective Diseases

	Male		Female
Influenza	1	...	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	...	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	...	—
Measles	—	...	—
Whooping Cough	—	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	...	—
Pneumonia	3	...	8

There were three deaths from motor vehicle accidents.

The diagram on page 8 shows that deaths from cancer have moved up into third place, overtaking deaths from respiratory diseases.

TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

Morecambe & Heysham M.B.	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			Resp. Tub.	Malig. neo-plasms, etc.	
	No. regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal		Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.
									No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 live births		
Year 1952	416	*11.5	607	*16.7	6	14	nil	nil	31	13	10	24	0.14	2.89
Year 1951	428	11.6	751	20.4	22	49	nil	nil	13	30	12	28		
Year 1950	404	10.9	697	18.8	10	24	nil	nil	16	40	10	25		
Year 1949	465	12.7	637	17.4	10	21	nil	nil	16	34	—	—		
Year 1948	442	12.0	523	14.2	8	17	1	2.22	25	56	—	—		
Year 1947	532	14.3	663	17.9	6	11	2	3.71	29	54	—	—		
Average 5 years—1947—1951	—	12.3	—	17.7	—	24	—	1.19	—	43	—	—		

* Adjusted (live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.09) = 12.5 per 1,000.
(death-rate (comparability factor, 0.73) = 12.2 per 1,000.

TABLE OF DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	...	5
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	...	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	...	1
4. Diphtheria	—	...	—
5. Whooping cough	—	...	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	...	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	...	—
8. Measles	—	...	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	...	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	13	6	19
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	9	22
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	11	11
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27	23	50
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
16. Diabetes	—	4	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	35	80	115
18. Coronary disease, angina	64	46	110
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	4	8
20. Other heart disease	51	66	117
21. Other circulatory disease	10	6	16
22. Influenza	1	—	1
23. Pneumonia	3	8	11
24. Bronchitis	11	15	26
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	5	2	7
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	4	3	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	10	—	10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	3	1	4
32. Other defined and ill defined diseases	21	25	46
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
34. All other accidents	3	4	7
35. Suicide	—	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1952 COMPARED

HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASES	VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM
	CANCER
	RESPIRATORY DISEASES *
	DISEASES OF KIDNEY AND PROSTATE
	VIOLENCE
	TUBERCULOSIS—ALL FORMS
	DIGESTIVE DISEASES.
	INFECTIVE DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis)
	ALL OTHER CAUSES

* Excluding tuberculosis : including influenza.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory and Hospital Facilities

Laboratory investigations are carried out by Dr. Rickards and his staff at the Pathology Laboratory in the Royal Lancaster Infirmary and samples taken in accordance with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are analysed by the Public Analyst, Dr. Walker of Preston. To both Dr. Rickards and Dr. Walker I am grateful for the guidance and help that they are always so willing to give.

National Assistance Act, 1948 — Section 47

No applications were made under this Act for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Visits have been paid to several elderly people living alone concerning whom there were suggestions that they were no longer fit to look after themselves, but in each case it has been possible to make arrangements less distressing for them than the measures provided by the Act.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

The Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Clinics are administered by the Regional Hospital Board and the School and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics by the County Council.

The remarks of previous years about the lack of adequate clinic premises at the West end of the town are still applicable.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

There were no changes during the year in the source of supply.

The following extensions of the service were made during the year :

Blackberry Hall Estate (pt)	148 yds. 4"
Trumacar Housing Site	308 yds. 4"
Trumacar Housing Site	296 yds. 6"
Branksome Drive Estate	258 yds. 4"
Wharfedale Estate	204 yds. 4"
Westfield Grove	16 yds. 4"
Smithy Lane	100 yds. 4"
Berwyn Avenue and Gainsborough Avenue	96 yds. 4"
Sugham Lane	48 yds. 6"
Woodlands Drive	116 yds. 6"
Woodlands Drive	8 yds. 4"
Curwen Avenue	48 yds. 4"

The purity of the water checked by 85 bacteriological analyses and 56 chemical analyses, was satisfactory. There was continuous chlorination of all water leaving the two filter houses.

Typical chemical and bacteriological analyses of the water are shown in the following tables :

Chemical Examination

Numerical Results	All in parts per 100,000
Colour	Nil
Turbidity	Nil
Oxygen Absorbed (4 hrs. at 27°C)	0.037
Free and Saline Ammonia (as NH ₃)	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia (as NH ₃) ... ..	.001
Nitrous Nitrogen (as NH ₃)	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen (as NH ₃)	0.024
Chlorides (as Cl)	1.3
Hardness Temporary	Nil
Hardness Permanent	4.5
Hardness Total	4.5
Reaction pH	8.4
Solids in Solution	6
Action on Lead (24 hrs.)	Less than .01

BACTERIAL CONTENTS OF DRINKING WATER

Senders Identity of Samples	Dept. Ref.	Date Received	Bacterial Colonies per ml. Agar 37° C	COLIFORM BACILLI PER 100 M.L.			
				Total	Faecal B. Coli 44°	I.A.C. Group	Other Organisms
1	1090 From Scotforth	14/1/53 Filters : Battery Nos. 1 and 2	Nil	Nil	—	—	—
2	1091 From Scotforth	14/1/53 Filters Battery No. 3	Nil	Nil	—	—	—
3	1092 From Lanthwaite	14/1/53 Filters : Battery Nos. 1 and 2	1	Nil	—	—	—
4	1093 From Lanthwaite	14/1/53 Filters : Battery Nos. 3 and 4	4	Nil	—	—	—

The following figures give the consumption of water for the past seven years :—

Year	Morecambe	Heysham
1946	355,595,000 gallons	148,275,000 gallons
1947	385,362,000 „	154,387,000 „
1948	408,144,000 „	170,287,000 „
1949	454,545,000 „	164,464,000 „
1950	456,859,000 „	165,897,000 „
1951	441,043,000 „	180,712,000 „
1952	493,189,000 „	207,794,000 „

Daily consumption of Morecambe and Heysham in 1952 = 1,915,254 or 53 gallons per day per head.

CLEANSING OF DYKES AND WATERCOURSES

All main watercourses have been thoroughly cleaned and, where necessary, graded.

Extra attention has been given to dykes in close proximity to the main sewerage contracts, which contribute much extra sediment to the watercourses, thereby impeding the flow. Similarly, those in the vicinity of new housing estates have had special attention but in the near future many of these will be culverted as the development proceeds.

Prompt attention has been given to any complaints received about the condition of subsidiary dykes near to houses but the number of complaints was less than usual.

Three complaints of mosquito infection were reported and these were dealt with satisfactorily by spraying.

NEW SEWERAGE SCHEME

The Resident Engineer has kindly provided the following summary of the work done during the year:

(1) Schola Green Lane Pumping Station

The installation of the pumping machinery in Pump House No. 1 was commenced on 16th June, 1952 and at the end of the year the work was well advanced.

At the Screening and Detritus House the suppliers of the mechanical screens erected the four screens together with the necessary rakers, brushes and conveyors.

A temporary fence at the Schola Green Lane entrance to the pumping station was provided and the old storage tanks were cleaned and repaired as far as possible.

(2) Bare Lane Pumping Station

A steel fence and gate were erected around this station.

(3) Landward Section of Outfall Sewer

The formation of the 60" diameter steel sewer from Ellesmere Road to the High Level Tank at Schola Green Lane Pumping Station was completed, the additional length of sewer laid during the year being approximately 348 yards.

At the north end of Ellesmere Road near Balmoral Road a large Valve Chamber was put in hand and at the end of the year this was nearly completed.

The commencement was made with the excavation of a trench for the construction of the remaining portion of the 60" diameter sewer in Balmoral Road.

(4) Seaward Section of Outfall Sewer

This work was handicapped by lack of materials, principally steel piles and timber. At the end of the year approximately 133 lin. yards of sewer were laid from the point on the Promenade near the end of Albert Road. At the end of the year progress with the shoreward cofferdam was continuing steadily and it was anticipated that a second cofferdam would be opened at an early date.

(5) Collecting Sewer from Bare and Torrisholme

This work was much delayed by lack of materials but at the end of the year the work of laying the 54" diameter sewer from Branksome Drive Housing Estate to White Lund corner, a distance of 825 lin. yards, had been completed.

At the Schola Green Lane end of this sewer, approximately 144 lin. yards of 57" diameter sewer had been laid. Of this length 25 lin. yards were constructed in tunnel under the railway."

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Number of houses on water carriage system	11,474	
„ „ fresh water closets	12,517	approx.
„ „ waste water closets	23	
„ „ middens	5	
„ „ closets attached to middens	5	
„ „ dry ashpits (excluding middens)	22	
„ „ movable ashbins	13,663	

INSPECTIONS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Inspection:

Complaints received	627
Visits	646
Nuisances discovered	666
Nuisances abated	626
Referred to other departments	195
Re-visits	853
Miscellaneous visits	136
Smoke observations	24
Informal notices served	143
Abatement notices served	47

Legal Proceedings

(1) In 1951, proceedings were instituted against the alleged agent for the owner of a terrace dwelling house for non-compliance with the terms of an abatement notice served under Section 93. The bench upheld the defendants submission that the notice had been addressed to the wrong person, and the case was dismissed.

During 1952, the case proceeded and it proved a little difficult to find an easy solution. The owner was abroad and his affairs were being handled by his secretary. The rent cheques were made payable to the owner and were sent to the secretary, who paid them into the owner's banking account. Statutory abatement notices were again served on the owner at his last known address and also affixed to the premises. No work was carried out and the facts were submitted to the court. No defence was entered and the court made a nuisance order on the Corporation. The work has now been carried out and the expenses, which cannot properly be recovered from

the owner, have become a registered charge on the property, and the council have, in effect, the powers of a Mortgagee.

There appears to be little likelihood of the owner returning to this country and the council will probably enforce the charge by selling the property under the Mortgagee's power of sale.

(2) Proceedings were instituted in the Magistrates' Court in respect of another terrace dwelling house against the agent, who had failed to comply with an abatement notice. A nuisance order was granted for the execution of the work within seven days, failing which the Council would carry out the work and recover the costs. The order was ignored. The work has been satisfactorily completed by the council and the costs will be recovered.

Summary of work done

Drains choked 302

(Many of these drains included above are properly named "Sewers" maintained either privately or by the council at the owner's expense. They are classified here as drains to distinguish them from the council's sewers).

Drains defective	31
Sewer choked	4
Sewer surcharging	1
Gully choked	59
Gully top badly set	1
Gully (street) choked	2
Gully defective	1
W.C. choked	3
W.C. broken	1
W.W.C. defective and converted to W.C.	1
W.W.C. choked	1
W.C. seat broken	1
Urinal choked	1
Ventilating pipe to drain short	1
Ventilating pipe to drain insecure	1
Flushing cistern defective	1
Cesspool overflowing	3
Inspection chamber (brickwork defective)	1

Waste pipe choked	3
Waste pipe broken	2
Waste pipe short	2
Lavatory basin cracked	1
Sink defective	1
R.W. downspout broken	8
R.W. downspout choked	2
Eavesgutter absent	2
Eavesgutter broken	16
Chimney breast damp	3
Chimney flue defective	1
Chimney stack (defective rendering)	2
Chimney (excessive smoke)	1
Roof leaking	28
Roof (bay) leaking	4
Roof (annexe) leaking	3
Roof (W.C.) leaking	2
Roof (woodwork perished)	1
Skylight (defective)	1
Walls, penetrating dampness	14
Walls, defective pointing (open joints)	3
Walls, rising dampness	7
Walls, rendering broken	1
Wall plaster perished and broken	8
Ceiling plaster perished	7
Windows, perished woodwork	7
Windows, no sashcords	4
Windows, pointing defective	1
Firegrate broken	1
Fireback defective	1
Fireplace defective	3
Floor wood perished	6
Floor infested (woodworm)	2
Floor kitchen, defective	1
Floor, woodwork rotten	1
Floor damp	1
Floor, living room, uneven	2
House generally dilapidated	3
Rooms dirty	2
Door, badly hung	4
Door, woodwork defective	3
Door frame defective	3
Door W.C. apartment (absent)	2
Staircase, handrail (loose)	1
Water pipe burst	1

Water pipe (hot) leaking	2
Backboiler (burst)	1
Water in cellar	17
Flooded area	3
Water over site and under floor	1
Animals (improperly kept)	2
Vermin under floor	1
Path broken	1
Yard surface defective	2
Wasps nests	8

Drainage

Visits	384
Re-visits	435
Drains tested	103
New drains tested	95
Informal notices	91
Formal notices	27

Supply of dust bins

Visits	71
Re-visits	22
Informal notices served	17
Formal notices served	2

Stables and Piggeries

Visits	14
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Camping sites

There are nine camping sites licensed by the Council under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 and all are

kept under supervision. The addresses of the sites are as follows:

- Vickers Holiday Camp, Westgate.
- Regent Camping Ground, Regent Road.
- Summerville Camping Ground, Acre Moss Lane.
- Meadowfield Camp, Middleton Road.
- Elms Occupation Lane, Bare.
- Broadgate Foot, Middleton Road.
- Torrisholme Hall Farm, Slyne Road.
- Encee Precision Co., Westgate.
- 10 Oxcliffe Road.

The total permitted number of caravans on these sites is 440.

Although some use has been made of the Town and Country Planning Act in the attempt to prevent the placing of caravans on unlicensed ground the results have been disappointing and site-owners who comply, at some expense, with the requirements of the Corporation are not unjustified when they complain of unlicensed competitors who, because they are unlicensed, escape similar expense. It is said that more executive power under the Act is soon to be delegated to the local authority and that this will make it easier to deal with the law-breakers. It is hoped that this expectation will be fulfilled.

Frequent visits were paid to the licensed sites during the season and all were being satisfactorily managed.

Visits	38
Visits to unlicensed sites	29

Swimming Baths

There is one public swimming bath — the municipally owned open air Super Swimming Stadium. This now includes a small remedial section, which is greatly appreciated and well patronised, and a few slipper baths the popularity of which has shewn the need for more of them.

The water at the Swimming Stadium, which is drawn from the sea and stored in a settling tank, has always been maintained at a high standard of bacteriological purity. The main trouble in past years has been from algae growths, which not only interfered with filtration but, even when removed by hand daily from the bath, at times made the water opaque and gave rise to complaints.

In 1951 a Vacuum Solution Chlorinator of the latest pattern was installed, and in 1952 was added a Hydraulic Solution Feeder for Alkali, by means of which both the Chlorine and the Alkali are added in accurate proportion. This apparatus now ensures that with an increased dosage of Chlorine a corresponding proportionate dosage of Alkali is added and no discomfort from the additional chlorine is experienced by bathers.

The result of these improvements has been not only an even higher standard of bacteriological purity, but the disappearance of the unsightly and troublesome growths of algae, giving a water that is bright and of an excellent clarity.

It is now possible to operate with an exceedingly accurate marginal chlorination with free available chlorine in the bath. Tests are carried out three times a day for chlorine content and pH value.

For some considerable time the need for a covered bath in the town has been apparent. The present open air bath is a remarkably fine one but it is, of course, most attractive in warm summer weather; even during the season the uncertainty of the weather and often the comparative coldness of the water restrict its use, particularly for the instruction in swimming of school children. A covered bath would not only be popular with visitors during the earlier and later periods of the holiday season but would benefit the residents, and their children, all the year round. The difficulty, of course, in providing a covered bath is a financial one; but it is a project that, for reasons both of health and pleasure and, indeed, of profit, one would hope may find a place in any programme of developments to be undertaken when there is money to spare.

In addition to 2 chemical estimations, 24 bacteriological analyses were made as follows :

Inlet	10
Outlet	10
Pool centre	3
Untreated water	1

The bacteriological reports are of interest and a specimen is shown below :

Ref. No.	Date	Bacterial Colonies per c.c.	Coliform Bacilli per 100 c.c.	Location
423	24th July	Nil	Nil	Inlet
424	24th July	3	Nil	Pool Centre
425	24th July	5	Nil	Outlet
426	24th July	40	180 + (including Faecal B. Coli)	Untreated water

Disinfestation

Number of verminous houses inspected	48
Number of verminous houses re-inspected	10
Number of verminous houses disinfested	16
Wasps nests destroyed	8

Offensive Trades

There are three premises in which offensive trades are conducted; in two of these the trade is tripe dressing and in the third it is gut scraping.

All were satisfactorily conducted.

Number of visits	3
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Tents, Vans and Sheds

4 inspections were made during the year. No legal action was necessary.

Keeping of Animals

Visits	7
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PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This act which came into operation on the 1st April, 1952, regulates the sale of pet animals, and provides that no person shall keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority.

The conditions of the licence include:

- (a) that animals will at all times be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness.
- (b) food and drink supply must be adequate.
- (c) that animals will not be sold at too early an age.
- (d) that precautions will be taken to prevent the spread among animals of infectious diseases.
- (e) that appropriate steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

Number of premises licensed	2
Number of visits	3

Rats and Mice Destruction

From time to time one is asked to justify the work of the rodent officers by giving the numbers of rats and mice known, or estimated, to have been killed and figures have, in past years, been produced. It was always, however, obvious that these figures were quite unreliable and their omission from the official returns is a concession to honesty.

The only proof of the value of the work lies in the fact that premises which are found to be harbouring rats or mice are, in fact, cleared of them; after the rodent officers have done their work the traces that rodents always leave cease to appear.

The research into poisons and the study of methods of working which have been the concern of the infestation branch of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for some years now, and the results of which are regularly passed along to the local authorities, have unquestionably increased enormously the efficiency of rodent destruction. The monetary value of the foods and other materials saved from rats and mice every year

by these modern techniques cannot be known, but it must be very large indeed and must repay the cost of the service many times over. This research work continues. There are poisons known to be more effective than those now used, but which present the problem of being dangerous to other animals, including man; there is the problem of the rat that dies leaving a corpse that is inaccessible and smells; and there is, since even rats are sentient beings, the duty to kill as painlessly as possible.

In the following tables the work done during the year is analysed.

Rodent Control in Sewers

Maintenance treatments of sewer manholes were continued during the year in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture. Two treatments were carried out at intervals of six months and the number of manholes in each case was 31.

The results were as follows:

First treatment

Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	8
Number of manholes showing poison bait take	6

Second treatment

Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	8
Number of manholes showing poison bait take	5

The results of the rest of the work done in 1952 are given in the following table which is in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

TYPE OF PROPERTY

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2).	36	11,135	160	1,454	12,785
III. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a) notification, (b) survey or otherwise (Notes 1 and 3).	(a) 9	119	7	50	185
	(b) 21	29	84	263	444
III. Number of properties inspected (See Section II.) which were found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	Major 2	—	3	9	14
	Minor 22	83	68	116	289
IV. Number of properties inspected which were (See Section II.) found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	2	32	1	172	207
V. Number of infested properties (See Section III. and IV.) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	26	115	72	262	475
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:—	—	—	—	—	—
(1) Treatment.	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural Works. (i.e. Proofing).	—	6	—	20	26

VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4.	—	—	—	—
VIII. Legal Proceedings.	—	—	—	—

IX. Number of “block” control schemes carried out 12

HOUSING

(1) General Observations

During 1952 it seemed to the Housing Committee that the list of applicants for Council houses had become inflated and unrealistic and a fresh analysis of the numbers was carried out. All those people whose names were on the list and who were living in rooms were written to and were asked to state what their present circumstances were.

When this had been done several years previously, the result had been a marked reduction in the size of the list, and the same investigation, produced, in 1952, the same result. The new list contained, at the end of the year, 996 applicants living in rooms. From past experience one would expect that some people whose names have been removed from the list because no reply had been received from them will in time turn up and express indignation over their removal; but the number of these will be small, and 996 is probably a reasonably correct figure.

Although a reduction from an apparent figure of about 1,700 houseless families to a more real figure of 1,000 seems to be a relief and an easing of the burden of unhappiness, yet the relief itself is rather unreal. The hundreds removed from the list do not include any of those whose weariness with life in rooms, overcrowding and lack of a decent privacy bring them back month after month to have hope deferred and again deferred as their children grow up and their own years of early married life slip away. However, it is at least possible to say that one now comes across fewer of the most heart-breaking conditions and that a great deal of the most acute misery of the homeless of the post-war years has been relieved.

By degrees the property requisitioned for the homeless during and after the war is being returned to the owners and, very slowly, the worst of the huts in Barrows Lane and Banks Lane are being emptied and demolished. The huts here and in Smithy Lane offered, immediately after the war, some relief in pressing difficulty that was too tempting to refuse, or too tempting, at any rate, to the Ministry of Health (for many of these structures were accepted as housing property unwillingly, and in spite of protest, by the local authority). The relief afforded those few years ago leads now to fresh trouble. The huts, never very sound, have deteriorated,

the owner of the site wants the land for his own development schemes and the Housing Officer could satisfy the tenants, the landowner and the Medical Officer of Health only by putting a stop for six months or so to the rehousing of those on the waiting list who have never yet been offered anything while the tenants of the huts are rehoused. It is not easy to be fair to everybody.

(2) Housing Needs

At the end of the year there were 1,223 applicants for Council houses; of these 996 were living in rooms. Of the 996 living in rooms 626 were parents with children and the sizes of the families were as follows:

Families of 3 (i.e. with 1 child)	403
Families of 4 (i.e. with 2 children)	161
Families of 5 (i.e. with 3 children)	34
Families of 6 or more	15

(3) Progress of Local Authority Schemes

During the year 103 houses and 16 flats were built in the borough, 31 of these houses having been built by persons or bodies other than the local authority.

The 88 families rehoused during 1952 in Council houses and flats comprised 324 persons.

Several of the worst of the huts in Barrows Lane, Heysham, were demolished.

(4) Inspections

Housing Act, 1936

Houses inspected	7
Houses re-inspected	3
Rent books examined	111
Rent books not complying (S.4)	2
Application for permitted number	1

Public Health Act, 1936

Houses inspected	646
Houses re-inspected	853

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Inspection of Food Premises:

Bakehouses	127
Restaurant kitchens	258
Food preparation premises	247
Fish friers	46
Food stores	49
Proposed food premises	271
School kitchen	4
Snack bars	195
Markets	2
Public houses	3
Miscellaneous	58
Other food premises	373
	<hr/>
	1633
	<hr/>

266 visits have been made with contractors to food premises in connection with proposed work or work in progress and 243 visits have been made to proposed food premises in connection with structural alterations necessary to comply with the requirements of Section 13 Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and 111 miscellaneous visits in connection with “Change of User” under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

Notices:

Informal	15
Statutory	—

Defects:

Structural	9
Drainage	8
Tables and benches	3
Floors, walls and ceilings	7
Want of cleanliness	5
Want of re-decoration	6
Inadequate W.C. accommodation	5
Inadequate washing facilities	7
Inadequate ventilation	5
Inadequate artificial lighting	2
Inadequate hot water supply	5
Inadequate accommodation for refuse	3
	<hr/>
	65
	<hr/>

	Register 1.1.52	Transfers 1952	Additions 1952	Deletions 1952	Register 31.12.52
1. Fish friers ...	32	4	1	—	33
2. S a u s a g e s, potted, pressed, pickled, preserved food	48	* 1	3	1	49
3. S a u s a g e s, potted, pressed, pickled, preserved food (including fish frying)	1	* 1	—	—	2
	<hr/>				
	81	5	4	1	84
	<hr/>				

* Registration amended and now included in Group 3.

During the year three bakehouses have been discontinued and removed from the register and one new bakehouse has been added to the register. There are 81 bakehouses on the register, 75 in use and six not in use.

Structural alterations and reconstruction under plans approved have been completed at the following premises:

	Number of premises structurally altered or reconstructed un- der plans approved
Bakehouses	8
Restaurant Kitchens, Snack Bars	17
Food Preparation Premises ...	13
Fish Friers	6
Food Stores	14
	<hr/> 58 <hr/>

The continued relaxation on the issue of catering licences by the Ministry of Food has increased the number of visits to restaurant kitchens and snack bars. The report shows an increased number of visits to food preparation premises and food stores. The total number of visits to food premises of all types in the Borough shows an increase on 1951 but the number of premises structurally altered or reconstructed under plans approved by the Corporation remains constant.

From the 1st July, 1952 the financial limits within which building work could be done without a licence was raised for a period of twelve months from £100 to £200. On the 18th November, 1952 the Minister of Works announced that the licensing period would end on the 31st December, 1952 and that for the calendar year 1953 the “free limit” would be raised from £200 to £500 and in the case of certain special classes of buildings known as “designated buildings,” which means, generally speaking, factories and workshops, to £2,000. The benefits conferred by these additional increases is much welcomed as it will reduce the number of applications for licences to execute building work.

Similarly the abolition of development charges under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 should materially assist these food traders who wish to extend their premises.

Considerable progress has been made during the year and once more it is a pleasure to report the continuance of the cordial relationships that the department enjoys, not only with the Food Control Committee and the various ministerial departments, but with the food traders of the Borough and the local building contractors, without whose co-operation such progress would not have been possible.

FOOD SAMPLING

173 samples were purchased or taken during the year and analysed by the Borough Analyst as follows:

Informal samples of milk ...	22	
Formal samples of milk	70	92
	<hr/>	
Informal samples of food ...		62
Informal samples of ice-cream	14	
Formal samples of ice-cream	1	15
	<hr/>	
Informal samples of drugs ...		4
		<hr/>
		173
		<hr/>

Milk

Informal:

Tuberculin Tested:

Genuine	8
Genuine but low in solids-not-fat	1

Undesignated:

Genuine	10
Genuine but slightly low in solids-not-fat ...	1
Genuine but low in solids-not-fat	1

Accredited:

Genuine but low in solids-not-fat	1
--	---

Formal:

Undesignated:

Genuine	11
Genuine but slightly low in solids-not-fat	4
Genuine but low in solids-not-fat	2
Deficient 60 per cent fat (see notes below)	1

Tuberculin Tested:

Genuine	13
Genuine but low in solids-not-fat	1

T.T. (Pasteurised):

Genuine	7
----------------	---

Pasteurised:

Genuine	26
Contained 3.6 per cent extraneous water (Distributor cautioned)	1

Sterilised:

Genuine	3
----------------	---

Accredited:

Genuine	1
----------------	---

One sample of milk taken from a dairy, prior to bottling and at the time of arrival, was found to be deficient 60% fat. This was an extraordinary deficiency and follow-up samples were taken without notifying the dairy. These samples were taken early in the morning from the farmer, before collection by the dairy company, and were quite genuine. The record card for the farmer kept by the company showed fat contents varying from 3 to 4.5%. It appeared, however, that the dairy manager had complained to the police regarding the theft of milk from the loading platforms at the farms and the substitution of old skimmed milk, before collection by dairy transport. A detective calling at the department the same day suggested that the case was closely related to a series of complaints made to the police over a short period by a group of distributors about the theft of milk bottles from doorsteps (one distributor mentioned 48 losses in one morning). The police were

of the opinion that the milk was stolen in the churn for the sake of the cream and the resultant skimmed milk was substituted for a full fresh churn as opportunity presented itself. Further samples proved genuine.

Food

Apple juice	1
Baking powder	1
Beer, black	1
(This sample was labelled “non-intoxicating” but contained 4.6 per cent alcohol by volume, with wild yeast present. The packers were notified; a somewhat lengthy correspondence ensued and eventually the whole was referred to the Ministry of Food for attention)	
Black pudding	5
Butter	1
Cake and pudding mixture	1
Crab paste	1
Cream, synthetic	2
Cream, synthetic (powder)	1
Cream, whey	1
Coffee, chicory and sugar	1
Fat, cooking	1
Fat, cooking linseed	1
Fishcakes	1
Flour, soya	1
Fruit in syrup	1
Gelatine	1
Glucose sip drink	1
Guava jelly	1
Jam, strawberry	2
Lemon drink	1
Lime juice cordial	1
Margarine	4
Meringue powder	1
Mincemeat	1
Nut mixture	1
Oat cakes	1
Orange drink	1
Peel, cut and mixed	1
Pepper	2

Rice	1
Sauce	1
Sausage beef	3
(One sample of beef sausage contained 150 parts per million sulphite preservative as sulphur dioxide. No declaration to this effect was made in the shop. The vendor was cautioned)	
Sausage, pork	3
Sausage, liver	1
Shrimps, potted	1
Soft drink powder	1
Soup	1
Suet	1
Tea	4
Vinegar, malt	1
Yeast, brewers	1
Yoghourt	1

Drugs

Epsom salts	1
Menthol-lyptus tablets	1
Paraffin, liquid	1
Quinine (ammoniated)	1

Ice-cream

Genuine	12
Deficient in fat and milk-solids-not-fat (Repeat sample — genuine)	1
Deficient in fat, milk - solids - not - fat and sugar (Repeat sample—formal — deficient)	1
(For details of percentages see notes to Ice-cream on page 39)	

Legal proceedings:

Legal proceedings were instituted against a local manufacturer of ice-cream for selling ice-cream 60 per cent deficient in fat and 6 per cent deficient in sugar. No defence was entered and the manufacturer was found guilty and fined £5 with £5.13.0 costs.

The case was taken in the Magistrates Court in September under the Food Standards (General Provisions) Order, 1944 and the Food Standards (Ice-cream) Order, 1951.

ICE-CREAM

The year 1951 had seen, what had long been asked for, the first statutory standard for the composition of ice-cream ever made in this country. The year 1952, unfortunately, was marked by a statutory reduction of this standard, enforced by a scarcity of some of the necessary ingredients.

On July 7th, the Minister of Food approved the Food Standards (Ice-cream) (Amendment) Order, 1952, which requires that ice-cream shall contain not less than 4 % fat, 10 % sugar and 5 % milk solids other than fat with special provisions for ice-cream containing fruit etc., and Parev (Kosher) ice-cream. This was a reduction of 1 % in the fat requirement and $2\frac{1}{2}$ % in the other solids requirement of the 1951 standard.

In fact, the ice-cream sold in this town has for a number of years been of much better quality than is required by any statutory regulation and for the past two years has been notably good.

During the year 15 samples were submitted for chemical analysis. Although no harmful ingredients were found in any of the samples, three did not comply with the standard.

Legal Proceedings:

See notes to Food and drugs.

Bacteriological Examination:

216 Samples of ice-cream were examined as follows:

Methylene Blue Reductase Test (with provisional gradings):

Grade 1	156
Grade 2	44
Grade 3	7
Grade 4	9

In the tables that follow are given the results of bacteriological and chemical analyses.

Bacillus Coli in 0.1 c.c.

Absent 216

Present nil

Type	No. of Samples	Provisional Gratings				B. Coli Absent in O.l.c.c.
		1	2	3	4	
Bulk	67	47	12	3	5	67
Pre-packed	145	105	32	4	4	145
Complete Cold Mix	4	4				4
Total	216	156	44	7	9	216

Type	% Graded 1 or 2			
	1952	1951	1950	1949
Bulk	88.1	88.3	76.0	63.6
Pre-packed	94.5	96.4	87.4	50.0
Complete cold mix	100.0	100.0	85.7	50.0

Comparative Figures:

Year	Grade 1 or 2 %	B. Coli Absent in O.l.c.c. %
1948	50.7	90.4
1949	60.0	97.8
1950	82.0	100.0
1951	94.0	100.0
1952	92.6	100.0

The percentage of samples falling in grade 4 was 4.1 as compared with 3.8 in 1951, 11.9 in 1950 and 21.1 in 1949.

	Provisional Gradings				% graded 1 or 2	
	1	2	3	4	1952	1951
Local	64	15	4	5	89.8	86.2
"Imported"	92	29	3	4	94.5	98.6
TOTAL	156	44	7	9	92.6	94.0

Composition :

15 samples were analysed by the Public Analyst, 3 samples contravened the order of 1951 relating to standards (Nos. 8, 10, and 11).

(See also notes to Food and Drugs)

Sample No.	Fat %	Total Solids %
1	9.6	34.8
2	8.6	34.9
3	12.4	40.0
4	11.4	34.5
5	11.8	
6	11.6	35.1
7	9.5	29.0
8	4.7	17.7
9	6.7	30.4
10	2.7	18.1
11	2.0	17.6
12	10.6	35.2
13	7.4	29.0
14	9.7	34.6
15	10.2	31.3
*Average :	11.9	34.7

* Does not include the 3 samples below standard, on account of which a manufacturer was fined in the Magistrates Court as already reported.

As in recent years, a large number of samples were taken during the year in order to ensure, not only that standards of cleanliness and safety are not permitted to fall during the very busy months of the Summer season, but also that the results of examination may truly represent all the ice-cream sold.

The results of the Methylene Blue Reductase Test are highly satisfactory, anything over 90 % of samples falling into grades one and two being excellent. The difference between the figures for 1951 and 1952, 94 % for the former year and 92 % for the latter, is accounted for by a variation in the figures for “imported” ice-cream, and this variation, at the remarkably high level of 95 - 98 %, has no significance.

Visits :

Dealers premises	411
Manufacturers premises	57
Storage premises	5
Proposed premises	31
Cinemas	13
Street Traders	23
Sampling	293
Informal notices	17

Registered premises :

Manufacture storage and sale	5
Manufacture and storage	2
Manufacture and sale	11
Storage and sale	5
Storage	4
Sale	84
Sale of pre-packed (By agreement)	82
	<hr/>
	193
	<hr/>

During the year 1 premises ceased to be used for ice-cream purposes and the certificate of registration was withdrawn. The Council approved the transfer of 18 certificates and 17 additional premises were registered giving a total of 193 premises, an increase of 16 over the previous year.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Meat:

Number of visits to slaughter-houses	580
Number of visits to butchers' shops	127

Animals inspected (including Heysham Harbour)

Beasts (excluding cows)	1,609
Cows	521
Calves	1,151
Sheep and lambs	9,370
	<hr/>
	12,651
	<hr/>

The Morecambe slaughter-house was closed down for alterations from the 17th November until the end of the year. During this period, slaughtering for the Borough was carried out at Lancaster Abattoir and the meat was inspected by the Lancaster City Public Health Staff.

Meat condemned (including Heysham Harbour):

Cattle:

Tuberculosis:

Carcase and organs	8
Hindquarter	1
Forequarter	3
Heads and tongues	130
Lungs (pairs)	263
Livers	120
Hearts	40
Skirts	63
Spleens	87
Stomachs	93
Udder (lbs)	368
Fat (lbs)	164

Other diseases :

Carcase and organs (bruised)	2
Livers (cirrhosis)	695
Livers (part) (cirrhosis)	882
Udder (lbs.) (abscesses)	471
Tongues (actinomycosis)	1
Tail (abscesses)	2
Heads (C. Bovis)	13
Intestines (Oesophagostomum radiatum)	58
Beef (bone taint) lbs.	596
Beef (bruised) lbs.	982

Cysticercus Bovis :

13 cases of C. Bovis were discovered (as compared with 35 in 1951 and 48 in 1950) and were classified at the laboratory as 11 live and 2 degenerated cysts. The distribution amongst the carcasses and the collection centres is shown below.

Distribution :

Heifers	3
Bullocks	5
Cows	4
Others	1

Centres :

Northern Ireland	4
Poulton	3
Penrith	1
Pilling	1
Kendal	2
Not known	2

Calves :

Carcase and organs (inflammation)	2
Carcase and organs (navel ill)	1
Carcase and organs (fever)	1

Sheep:

Carcase and organs (uraemia)	1
Carcase and organs (fevered)	9
Carcase and organs (emaciation)	12
Carcase and organs (moribund)	9
Carcase and organs (inflammation)	2
Carcase and organs (dropsy)	2
Carcase and organs (abscesses)	3
Carcase and organs (Lamb) (emaciation)	3
Forequarter (abscesses)	1
Lambs leg (abscesses)	1
Livers (flukes)	1020
Intestines (sets) (O.R.)	129
Head and pluck (flukes)	25

Other:

Pigs head (tuberculosis)	1
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Carcases Inspected and Condemned Morecambe and Heysham

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1609	521	1151	9370	?
Number inspected	1609	521	1151	9370	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	2		4	41	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	963		—	1020	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	45.31		0.34	11.32	—
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses con- demned	8		—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	263		—	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	12.25		—	—	—

Unsound Food (other than carcase meat) surrendered:

Meat:

Veal	tins	1
Veal pressed	lbs	17½
Meat	tins	83
Veal jellied	tins	90
Cooked hams (70 tins)	lbs	1293
* Bacon	lbs	109¾
Pork	lbs	60½
Stewed steak (tins)	lbs	168
Stewed steak	tins	11
Chopped pork (tins)	lbs	4
Chopped pork	tins	1
Luncheon meat	lbs.	72½
Luncheon meat (tins)	lbs	92¾
Irish stew (tins)	lbs	2
Pork butts (tins)	lbs	43¼
Minced meat loaf (tins)	lbs	3¾
Ox Tongue (tins)	lbs	6
Sheeps tongues	lbs	13
Sausage	lbs	720
Sausage	tins	6
Chicken giblets	lbs	6
Rabbit	lbs	60

Fish:

Fish	tins	196
Salmon	tins	2
Cod	stone	72
Cod fillets	box	1
Halibut	stone	10
Herrings	tins	1
Sardines	tins	2
Sild	tins	3

Shellfish:

Crab meat	lbs	17¾
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Fruit:

Apricot (jars)	lbs	1½
Fruit	tins	764
Jam	jars	9
Cherries	tins	86
Plums	tins	37
Pears	cases	28
Oranges	tins	39
Gooseberries	tins	7
Damsons	tins	1
Prunes	tins	6
Pineapple (tins)	lbs	2
Grapes	tins	3
Apples	tins	2
Apples	lbs	7
Grapefruit	tins	1
Marmalade	tins	4
Strawberries	tins	4
Loganberries	tins	3

Vegetables:

Vegetables	tins	137
Tomatoes	tins	9
Tomatoes (tins)	lbs	190
Peas	tins	9
Beans	tins	59
Onions	cases	23
Soup	tins	28

Confectionery:

Rice	cwt	1
Flour	lbs	2240
Black puddings	lbs	85
Cookies	lbs	26
Macaroon (packets)	lbs	128
Fat extender	tins	2
Swiss rolls ... ..	...	23
Chocolate	lbs	3
Milk powder	lbs	108
Cakes		58
Honey	lbs	2840
Synthetic cream	lbs	30½
Synthetic cream	gallons	4
Chocolate tea cakes		295

Provisions and miscellaneous:

Milk	tins	328
* Margarine	lbs	5
* Cheese (packets)		18
Coffee	lbs	429
Cocoa (packets)		6
Syrup	tins	1
Sauce	bottles	3
Pickles	jars	11
Jellies (packets)		39
Salad cream	bottles	14
Currants	lbs	450
Mint sauce	bottles	7
Mincemeat	tins	2
Seasoning	lbs	3

* Returned by vendor through Ministry of Food channels.

MILK SUPPLY

Registration:

	Total on 1.1.52	Transfers	Deletions	Additions	Total on 31.12.52
Distributors ...	91	3		2	92
Dairies	27	1	1	1	27

Licences:

Tuberculin Tested:

Dealers	16
Dealers Renewal	38
Supplementary	7

Pasteurised:

Pasteurisers	1
Dealers	12
Dealers Renewal	39
Supplementary	5

Sterilised:

Dealers	6
Dealers Renewal	19
Supplementary	3

Visits and Inspections:

Distributors	245
Dairies	103
Pasteurising Plant	67
Farms	2
Bottling establishments (excluding plant)	7
Milk Bars	17
Sampling (bacteriological)	219
Complaints	7
Day Nursery	8
School Kitchen	3

Bacteriological Examinations:

380 samples of milk were taken involving some 1,011 examinations. These were carried out at the Public Health Laboratory attached to the Lancaster Royal Infirmary and supervised by Dr. A. G. Rickards.

91 samples were of undesignated milk and the remaining 289 were designated. Of the undesignated milks 74 were sampled on arrival at the processing plant and of these 30 were of unsatisfactory keeping quality. All 157 samples taken after pasteurisation at the plant were satisfactory.

Almost 50% of the samples of T.T. milk arriving at the plant for pasteurising or for bottling were unsatisfactory (this compares with almost 25 % in the previous year)..

71 samples of milk of all classes were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and all were reported as free.

The quality of the milk arriving at the processing plant for pasteurisation or bottling has decreased since last year; most of it is sent from farms outside the borough and unsatisfactory samples are reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Nowadays "unsatisfactory" means failure to pass the methylene blue test and shews a milk of poor keeping quality; it is the raw undesignated milk that is chiefly at fault.

Samples this year included laboratory reports on milk bottles after cleansing by hand or machine. 26 were completely satisfactory, and nine showed unsatisfactory methods. The dairymen were advised accordingly and results improved. 26 samples of school milk (all pasteurised) were satisfactory.

A summary of the bacteriological findings in all the samples taken is given in the following table.

Reports of the chemical analyses of milk are given on pages 31 and 32.

Designation	No. of Samples	B. Coli in 0.1 c.c.			Methylene Blue Test (Keeping Quality)			Phosphatase Test (Heat Treatment)			Tubercle Bacilli		Turbid. Test (Satisfactory)
		—	+	% Satisfactory	Pass	Fail	% Satisfactory	Pass	Fail	% Satisfactory	-	+	
Tuberculin Tested	113	112	1	99.1	74	39	65.5				21		
Accredited	8	8		100.0	4	4	50.0				1		
47 Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	56	56		100.0	56		100.0	56		100.0	3		
Pasteurised	101	101		100.0	101		100.0	101		100.0	7		
Sterilised	11	11		100.0	11		100.0	11		100.0			11
Raw Undesignated	91	85	6	93.4	52	39	57.1				28	1	
Total	380	373	7	98.7	298	82	78.4	168		100.0	60	1	11

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT, 1951

This Act came into operation on the 1st April and replaced the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938. The Act calls for the registration of all persons who sell, offer or expose for sale any food from a vehicle, basket, pail, tray or other receptacle, and for the registration of all premises used as storage accommodation for such food. The provisions have been enlarged and are not confined to hawkers of food as in the previous Act, and the term "Food" has been extended and is now as defined in the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Number of hawkers on register at 1st April	63
Number of transfers during year	1
Number of new registrations	7
Number of hawkers on register at 31st Decem- ber	70
Number of hawkers premises on register at 1st April	20
Number of new registrations	4
Number of hawkers premises on register at 31st December	24
Number of visits made	72

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

The provisions of this Act require an indication of origin to be given in the case of certain imported goods and during the year complaint was made that many fruiterers were not complying with the requirements in respect of tomatoes. A circular was addressed, and visits were made, to many shops (not confined to fruiterers) calling their attention to "The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) No. 4 Order, 1929 which required that it shall not be lawful to sell or expose for sale any imported raw tomatoes unless they bear an indication of origin." The sources of supply were found to be Great Britain, Holland, Jersey, Guernsey and the Canary Islands. As, in the case of the first named, marking was optional, enforcement proved difficult and was largely a matter of accepting the shopkeepers statement, in the absence of an invoice to the contrary.

Number of circulars despatched to shops	73
Number of visits made	39
Number of contraventions observed	13
Number of verbal warnings given	7

DOGS IN FOOD SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, ETC.

During the year, a circular was received from the Minister of Food quoting his reply to a question in the House of Commons:

“ I agree that dogs should not be allowed in food shops. It is a most unhygienic practice. But I cannot feel that I would have any great success if I tried to stop it by a prohibitive regulation. Here is a problem more likely to be solved by voluntary action and I appeal to the public and the food trade to co-operate in keeping dogs out of their shops.”

The Health committee considered the circular and decided to authorise the preparation and issue of a suitable card to all shops in the categories mentioned. Some 500 cards were issued. The great majority of the shopkeepers welcomed this action and displayed the notices prominently. Their reception by the general public was also reasonable and the notices have been effective.

LABELLING OF FOOD ORDER, 1950

Number of visits	81
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PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Visits and disinfection:

Visits of enquiry into notified cases	88
Re-visits	40
Miscellaneous visits	21
Visits re disinfection	201
Premises disinfected	99
Articles disinfected	1208
Rooms disinfected	145
Number of times steam disinfectors used	149

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (other than TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING 1952

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AGE PERIODS — YEARS.														Total Cases	Total Deaths	Cases moved to hospital	Deaths in hospita
	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Age un- k'wn								
Smallpox																		
Scarlet Fever		1	18	61	2		1						83		65			
Diphtheria (including membranous croup).																		
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)																		
Paratyphoid Fever							1						1		1			
Measles (excluding rubella)	1	9	14	31	2	3	1						61		7			
Whooping Cough	1	9	14	16									40					
Acute Pneumonia (prlmary and Influenzal)			2		1		2	5	1				11		1			
Puerperal Pyrexia																		
Meningococcal Infection		1											1		1			
Acute Poliomyelitis P NP			1										1		1			
Acute Encephalitis I PI																		
Dysentery																		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum																		
Erysipelas							1	7	3				11		2			
Malaria (contracted in England and Wales, or Abroad)																		
Food Poisoning																		
Any other disease																		
TOTALS	2	20	49	108	5	3	6	12	4				209		78			

The incidence of infectious disease was low in 1952, the main disease amongst those notified being scarlatina, a milder disease than of old, with 83 cases.

Once again there was no case of diphtheria and there has not now been a case in the Borough since 1946.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis notified was half that for the previous year and the lowest for any year since 1939. The Council's Housing Committee play their part in attempting to reduce these figures by giving a high priority to families which include a case of tuberculosis, and immediate priority where there is a risk of infection of children.

The one case of paratyphoid occurred in a married woman without children who worked for two firms of bakers and confectioners. On the date of notification the patient had been ill for over three weeks and had been off work for three weeks. Her husband had not been ill nor was there any history of recent illness found amongst her associates. In these circumstances it was not possible to find a source of infection and fortunately there were no subsequent cases.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised by the Medical Officer of Health is given in the table that follows. As has been previously pointed out, these figures are no indication of the total number of children in the borough who have been immunised; many parents have their children immunised by their own private practitioner and of this number we have not accurate records for 1952.

Children up to the age of 7 years are given A.P.T.; for children over that age T.A.F. is used.

The parents of all children immunised by the Medical Officer of Health are reminded at intervals of 4 - 5 years of the desirability of renewing the protection given. When school entrants who have been immunised by their own doctors are found at routine inspections not to have been re-immunised, their parents are advised to take the children back to their doctors.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the year.							
AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION.							
	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	Total under 5 years	5 -	10 -
0 -							
76	67	6	9	3	161	9	—
							Total aged 5-14 years
							9

Number of children who were given a reinforcement injection. (i.e. subsequent to complete course).			
AGE GROUP.			
0 -	5 -	10 -	Total 0 - 14 years inclusive
135	149	124	408

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality During 1952

AGE PERIODS		NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Years.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
2 -		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -		-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
10 -		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -		-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
20 -		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -		1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -		3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 -		4	1	-	1	3	-	-	-
55 -		1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 -		1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
75 and upwards		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals		10	5	3	1	6	-	1	-
		15		4		6		1	

FOURTEEN YEARS' TABLES OF NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Pulmonary Tuberculosis :

Year.	Cases Notified.		Deaths	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	16	9	5
1940	17	15	6	4
1941	27	19	13	3
1942	20	7	12	3
1943	25	10	12	1
1944	24	15	10	6
1945	19	13	8	5
1946	26	16	6	4
1947	24	12	15	7
1948	31	10	16	6
1949	17	14	16	1
1950	19	20	6	7
1951	19	11	8	5
1952	10	5	6	-

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :—

Year.	Cases Notified.		Deaths.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1939	7	3	1	—
1940	6	3	1	1
1941	6	4	1	—
1942	5	8	—	3
1943	4	6	3	2
1944	7	6	4	2
1945	7	6	1	2
1946	6	4	2	2
1947	9	8	3	4
1948	5	8	—	—
1949	3	4	—	—
1950	—	5	—	1
1951	5	3	1	2
1952	3	1	1	—

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment of patients suffering from venereal disease is given at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

The figures in the following table were kindly supplied by Dr. J. F. Mackay.

	Non-Venereal Conditions	Gonorrhœa	Syphilis	Total Cases
Males	20	4	1	25
Females	2	—	2	4
Totals	22	4	3	29

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The general administrative arrangements were unchanged except for an additional standing exemption, and the usual work was satisfactorily carried out.

There were 205 vessels from foreign ports of which 102 were oil tankers, boarded and inspected.

There were no cases of infectious disease landed from any vessel.

Number of visits to Heysham	134
* Number of beasts examined	19
* Number of cows examined	2
* Number of sheep examined	87
Number of visits to slaughter-house	10

* Also included in figures on page 40.

Section 1—Staff.

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Appointment Nature of	Date of Appoint- ment	Qualifications	Any other Appoint- ments held
W. F. LYLE	Medical Officer of Health	1938	M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.	Medical Officer to Port Health Authority

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health — Public Health Department, Town Hall, Morecambe and Heysham, Tel. Morecambe 720.

SECTION II.—Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports	205	727,284	—	102	Nil
Coastwise	1195	1,072,035	—	—	—
Total	1400	1,799,319	—	102	Nil

SECTION III.—Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic : Number of passengers INWARDS	185,524
--	---------

Number of passengers OUTWARDS 181,578

Cargo Traffic: Principal IMPORTS—Cottons, Linens, Bacon
and eggs.

Total Imports
Tons

Ex Belfast	83099
(Coastwise)	

Ex Londonderry	13989
(Coastwise)	

Oil ex Tankers	1610650
(Foreign)	

Principal EXPORTS—Sundry Merchandise.

	Goods Cargo Tons	Bunker Coal Tons	Total Exports Tons
To Belfast (Coastwise)	149941	47843	197784
To Londonderry (Coastwise)	13354	—	13354
Oil (Coastwise)	1047920	—	1047920

Livestock—Imports and Exports.

Exports :

	Horses	Cattle	Pigs	Sheep	others
To Belfast	21	—	—	—	—
To Londonderry	—	—	—	—	—

Imports :

Ex Belfast	3573	18991	85987	—	29
Ex Londonderry ...	220	12024	19546	—	27

Principal Ports from which ships arrive: Belfast, Londonderry and ports around Suez.

SECTION IV.—Inland Barge Traffic.

Nil.

SECTION V.—Water Supply.

- 1 Source of supply for (a) the district, (b) shipping.
Town supply for both.
2. Reports of tests for contamination.
Bacteriological and chemical satisfactory.
- 3 Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes. Usual.
- 4 Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.
None employed.

SECTION VI Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

1 LIST OF INFECTED AREAS (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

Weekly copy from the Ministry forwarded direct to Waterguard office for Customs Officers and copy retained by Medical Officer.

2 RADIO MESSAGES.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

Not ordinarily needed but arrangements have been made for messages to be given immediately by Railway Executive and Shipping Agents to Waterguard Office.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (and (2). See notes to (a) above.

3 NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO (Regulation 14 (1) (b).

Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

This is usually received by the Customs Officer and handed later to the Sanitary Authority.

4 MOORING STATIONS (Regulations 22 to 30).

Situation of stations, any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

(a) Inner Mooring—for cases of smallpox and typhus (Easterly end of North Side).

(b) Outing Mooring—for cases of cholera, yellow fever and plague (at Lune Deeps).

STANDING EXEMPTIONS.

(a) All ordinary notifiable infectious diseases other than those specified above.

(b) Ships otherwise clean, which have arrived from a listed port in an infected area.

5 ARRANGEMENTS FOR —

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox—See Section VII).

An infectious disease hospital at Lancaster is available for all cases except smallpox. For smallpox cases the Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts. Contacts requiring to be kept under surveillance would be kept on board or accommodated at hospital.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

A steam disinfecter is provided for bedding and clothing.

Appliances and materials are available for the disinfecting of ships and this would be carried out by the Health Department staff.

SECTION VII.—Smallpox.

1 Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.
Regional Hospital Board will make arrangements.

2 Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance,, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

A special motor ambulance is available with attendants.

3 Name(s) of smallpox consultant(s) available.

Dr. R. W. Farquhar, Divisional Health Office, Lancaster.

- 4 Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox. Submitted to pathologists ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the Pathologist attached to the Royal Infirmary. Lancaster.

SECTION VIII.—Venereal Diseases.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seaman under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

No special arrangement for sailors. There is a clinic at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

SECTION IX.—Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Nil return.

SECTION X.—Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

Nil return.

SECTION XI.—Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

None needed.

SECTION XII.—Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

- 1 Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.
Ships with expired certificates sent to Barrow.
- 2 Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Submitted to pathologists ordinarily employed by the Public Health Authority. Usually the Pathologist attached to the Royal Infirmary, Lancaster.

- 3 Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Not carried out.

- 4 Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Not carried out.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Not known.

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Nil.

SECTION XIII.—Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspection and Notices.

102 vessels boarded—no action necessary.

SECTION XIV.—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948

Information respecting any shell-fish beds or laying within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

Under the Heysham and Morecambe Bay (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1926, an area of Morecambe Bay was prescribed and any mussels taken from this area must be subjected to an approved process of cleansing or sterilisation before being made available for human consumption. The cleansing process is carried out at Lytham Saint Annes.

No further action under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1934 and 1948 has been necessary.

SECTION XV.—Medical Inspection of Aliens (applicable only to ports approved for the landing of aliens.)

Nil—Not a port approved for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI.—Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious diseases.

Nil.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	44	17	7	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	111	133	2	—
(iii) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—
TOTAL	158	150	9	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	2
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	2	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	7	7	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	3	5	—	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	11	—	2
(c) Not separate for sexes... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	—	2
TOTAL	28	30	—	8

No. of outworkers making wearing apparel 2

SHOPS ACT,, 1950.

Under the Shops Act, 1950, and the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938, a total of 1,170 visits was made to various shop premises in the Borough. These included inspections during ordinary working hours when records of hours of employment, statutory notices and conditions of employment were checked, 88 premises were visited on second or subsequent occasions.

Supervision was carried out during the evenings and Sundays, as well as during normal office hours, the periods of duty being varied from week to week.

It was found necessary to caution 73 traders for failing to exhibit the prescribed forms, notices, etc., and keep the necessary records. 21 shopkeepers were warned for other technical contraventions of the Act.

Traders were advised respecting their obligations under the Acts and in the majority of cases this has proved to be sufficient.

Complaints by traders alleging unfair trading, and by assistants in connection with their conditions of employment, have been investigated immediately.

Proceedings were instituted against 3 shopkeepers for contraventions of Section 47 of the Shops Act in respect of Sunday trading in toys, fancy goods, souvenirs and postcards. Two first offenders were each fined £10 and 10/6 costs, and a second offender was fined £10 and 10/6 costs at the Morecambe and Heysham Police Court, on Friday, July 4th, 1952.

Throughout the year, the additional duties after the normal office hours were mainly concerned with keeping observations on the Promenade shops during the non-exempted Sundays, and the mixed shops on Sunday and the weekly half holidays; so far as the mixed shops were concerned no contraventions were seen during the periods of observation.

The traders generally have been more co-operative than in previous years and less difficulty has been experienced in enforcing the Acts.

Visits to shop premises	569
Inspections	495
Re-visits to shop premises	88
Shops failing to comply with provisions	73
Verbal warnings	21
Informal notices served re absence of, and im- proper keeping of records	57
Informal notices served re absence of suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences	1
Visits to places of public entertainment—Fun Palaces—Young Persons Employment Act ...	18

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The anxieties of the Health Committee (and of the Cleansing Superintendent) expressed in the report for 1951, about the failing efficiency of the offal plant, the lack of cover for new and expensive vehicles and the poor provision for the men for drying their clothes and taking their meals were relieved during 1952 by the consent obtained to go forward with plans for new building. This consent has come none too soon, for it is probable that past standards in public cleansing could not much longer have been maintained with existing conditions of equipment and buildings.

The Cleansing Superintendent has supplied the following details of refuse collection and disposal, sales of recovered materials and anticipated structural improvements at White Lund and Acre Moss Lane.

House and Trade Refuse Collection :

	Loads	T.	C.	Q.
House and Trade refuse	6842	12845	13	1
Raw kitchen waste	424	170	—	1
Fish and other offal	507	182	11	2
	<hr/> 7773 <hr/>	<hr/> 13198 <hr/>	<hr/> 5 <hr/>	<hr/> 0 <hr/>

Refuse Disposal :

At controlled tip	6120	12545	4	—
At Salvage plant	722	300	9	1
At Trade waste plant	931	352	11	3
	<hr/> 7773 <hr/>	<hr/> 13198 <hr/>	5	0

Trade Waste Plant Sales:

Concentrated	T.	C.	Q.	lb.	£	s.	d.
kitchen waste	132	14	—	—	956	7	2
Fish manure	17	11	—	—	684	19	—
Shrimp manure	8	15	—	—	262	10	—
Oyster shell	13	7	—	—	20	—	6
Bones	2	19	—	—	15	8	10
	<hr/> 175 <hr/>	6	—	7	<hr/> 1939 <hr/>	5	6

Salvage Plant Sales :

Waste paper	259	13	3	—	3176	—	6
Textiles	23	7	3	—	458	16	6
Non-ferrous metals	1	7	2	—	150	14	2
Black scrap	21	6	2	—	71	6	9
Rubber		2	—	—	5	10	—
Miscellaneous	7	14	2	—	48	6	2
	<hr/> 313 <hr/>	12	—	—	<hr/> 3910 <hr/>	14	1

Re-organisation :

Plans for modernising the two depots of the cleansing department were formulated in 1949, but owing to restrictions these plans have been delayed for three years and it is now a pleasure to report that consent has been received to erect the new office and garage at Acre Moss Lane and the offal plant at White Lund.

The building of an office and garage at Acre Moss Lane Depot is the first part of a scheme to provide adequate accommodation for both employees and equipment and it is hoped to commence the second stage, which includes up-to-date workmens' facilities, stores, workshop, etc., during late 1953.

It is also pleasing to report similar progress with the offal plant and this should be in operation by August, 1953. The machinery to be installed is the most modern of its kind and will eliminate those serious complaints which have caused so much concern in the past. This machinery will also process a far better product than the old plant.

These two schemes have been planned to modernise the department and extend the depot capacity for a further twenty to thirty years.

Refuse Disposal :

The joint refuse disposal tip at Salt Ayre Marsh was opened in August and will provide both Morecambe and Lancaster with approximately forty years tipping space.

Salvage :

During the year the price paid for waste paper fell by 56 per cent. This fall in price was anticipated and mentioned in the previous report but what was not anticipated was a quota scheme which allotted this authority four tons per week. This amount is only half of last year's sales and the result was that the income from waste paper dropped from £6,230 to £3,176.

Sickness :

The average sickness and absence rate was approximately that of industrial concerns, average 3.133 %, maximum 5.575 %.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

These services are the administrative responsibility of the County Council, but the medical work in the schools and the minor ailments clinics is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health in lieu of an assistant County Medical Officer.

934 children were medically examined in the schools at routine inspections, 397 shortly after their entry into school, 301 at the mid-period of their school life and 236 at a later age. At these inspections we had the attendance of 567 parents and attendance of a parent at the examination of the younger children is almost invariable.

In addition to the children seen in the schools, there were 3951 attendances of children at the School Clinics: of these 1030 were attendances at special clinics and 1921 at the Minor Ailments Clinics.

The hospital authorities have not yet succeeded in making any improvement in their arrangements for treating children with defects of the ear, nose and throat: children seen by the Aural Surgeon and for whom treatment is recommended have still to wait for 2-3 years before treatment is obtained. The penalty for delay will be, in some of the children, permanently damaged hearing.

The work of the nurses in the homes and schools has been increased, the number of children inspected by the nurses in schools having risen from 7,931 in 1951, to 10,362 in 1952, and the home visits from 199 to 263.

In September a new school for Infants and Juniors was opened at Trumacar Lane, Heysham. The class rooms, assembly hall and ancillary rooms are light, spacious and impressively modern, though the attainment of these good qualities seems to demand a remarkable extent of corridors. It is a pity that the building itself, seen from outside, should have so little aesthetic merit.

The dental service for the children is good and, by inspection and early treatment, aims at conservation. The comparison of permanent teeth saved by conservative treatment with permanent teeth extracted was not quite so favourable in 1952, as it had been in 1950 and 1951, but still compares to advantage with the average figures for the County.

In the County of Lancashire in 1951 (latest figures available) for each permanent tooth extracted 1.27 were saved by filling. In Morecambe and Heysham, for every permanent tooth extracted in 1952, 4.2 were saved (in 1951 the figure was 5.4).

In the County in 1951 for every 100 permanent teeth filled, 78 permanent teeth were extracted. In Morecambe and Heysham the corresponding number of extractions in 1952 was 21.2 (in 1951 the figure was 18.5).

Thanks are due to our two part-time dentists, to whom we owe it that the general collapse of school dental services which occurred a few years ago all over the country was avoided in this borough.

Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year in Schools and in School Clinics

No. of Pupils examined		Periodic Inspections 934		Special Inspections 803	
		Number of Defects		Number of Defects	
Disease or Defect		Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment
Skin		—	—	51	—
Eyes	Vision	39	—	25	—
	Squint	—	1	—	—
	Other	—	—	46	—
Ears	Hearing	—	—	3	—
	Otitis Media	—	—	1	—
	Other	—	1	44	—
Nose or Throat		26	15	26	—
Speech		2	—	—	—
Cervical Glands		—	—	4	—
Heart and Circulation		—	—	—	—
Lungs		—	5	—	2
Develop- mental	Hernia	—	—	—	—
	Other	—	—	—	—
Orthopaedic	Posture	4	—	1	—
	Flat-foot	15	3	2	—
	Other	24	6	8	—
Nervous System	Epilepsy	—	1	—	1
	Other	—	—	—	1
Psycho- logical	Development	—	—	—	—
	Stability	—	—	—	—
Other		1	3	464	—
TOTAL		111	35	675	4

EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of Cases death with	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	46	—
Errors of refraction (including squint)	146	—
Total	192	—
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	115	—

Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat:

Received Operative Treatment	108
Received other forms of treatment	44
Total	152

Orthopædic and Postural Defects:

Number receiving treatment	252
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SUMMARY OF WORK OF SCHOOL NURSES

Number of visits paid to schools	119
Cleanliness Inspections:—	
Number of examinations of children in schools ...	10362
Number of individual pupils found to be infested...	134
Home Visiting:—	
Number of visits paid to homes	263
Number of pupils seen at home visits	97
Number of interviews with parents at home	253

In reading the figures for uncleanliness in the above table it is to be remembered that 134 individual children found to be unclean were not 134 different children. There are families that offend repeatedly and whose children keep re-appearing among the numbers.

Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the Year in the Periodic Age Groups

Age Groups (All Schools)	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	397	16	4.1	364	91.6	17	4.3
Second Age Group	301	40	13.3	253	84.0	8	2.7
Third Age Group	236	41	17.4	187	79.2	8	3.4
	934	97	10.0	804	86.0	33	4.0

TREATMENT TABLES

Return of Defects known to have received treatment during
the year, either at the Authority's Clinics or elsewhere.

Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanness).

Disease or Defect:	Number of Defects Treated or under Treatment during the Year.
Skin :	
Ringworm—Scalp	
(i) X-Ray Treatment	—
(ii) Other Treatment	—
Ringworm—Body	1
Scabies	—
Impetigo	3
Other Skin diseases	47
Minor Eye Diseases	46
Minor Ear Defects	44
Miscellaneous (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	468
	<hr/>
	Total 609

Dental Inspection and Treatment

Two part-time dentists are employed and 187 sessions were occupied in inspection and treatment.

During the year 2,501 children were examined and the following treatments were given:—

Number of children receiving treatment	811
Number of Extractions	
(a) of temporary teeth	719
(b) of permanent teeth	202
Number of Fillings	
(a) of temporary teeth	Nil
(b) of permanent teeth	953
Number of other operations	Nil
Number of parents interviewed	1078

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN ATTENDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Blind	Nil
Partially Sighted	2
Deaf	3
Partially Deaf	Nil
Delicate	2
Physically handicapped	2
Educationally subnormal	7
Maladjusted	Nil
Epileptic	1

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

From readings taken at the Super Swimming Stadium,
Morecambe and Heysham.

During the year Meteorological work has been continued as in previous years, readings being taken at 09.00 hours, 10.00 hours, and 17.00 hours in Summer, and 09.00 and 18.00 hours in Winter, G.M.T.

Monthly reports have been sent to the Meteorological Office.

Morning and evening Code Weather telegrams are sent to the Air Ministry.

Reports sent weekly to Morecambe Visitor, Morecambe Guardian and Borough Advertiser. Daily readings are sent to the Lancashire Evening Post.

A daily weather report was exhibited during the Summer both at the Information Bureau and the Promenade, West End.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE (Millibars)

1952	Mean of the Month		Highest Reading		Date		Lowest Reading		Date	
January	1004.6	...	1034.3	...	21st	...	888.7	...	2nd	
February	1018.7	...	1037.5	...	5th	...	981.2	...	1st	
March	1009.3	...	1023.7	...	14th	...	992.9	...	4th	
April	1014.3	...	1028.5	...	26th	...	992.8	...	22nd	
May	1015.2	...	1033.8	...	23rd	...	991.1	...	5th	
June	1014.5	...	1025.4	...	4th	...	998.0	...	1st	
July	1018.1	...	1032.1	...	4th	...	1006.3	...	13th	
August	1009.7	...	1023.2	...	22nd	...	986.9	...	9th	
September ...	1012.8	...	1032.3	...	15th	...	986.9	...	26th	
October	1007.6	...	1024.0	...	8th	...	987.5	...	24th	
November ...	1013.8	...	1028.3	...	13th	...	995.0	...	21st	
December ...	1009.3	...	1034.7	...	4th	...	975.3	...	17th	
Year	1012.325		1037.5	...	5th Feb.	...	888.7	...	2nd Jan.	

SUNSHINE (Recorded by Campbell-Stokes Instrument)

1952	Total Sunshine h. m.	Greatest daily amount of sun h. m.		Date	which sun shone	Sunless days
January	57 0	...	6 24	...	19th ... 19	... 12
February	88 30	...	7 42	...	15th ... 22	... 7
March	104 12	...	10 24	...	31st ... 24	... 7
April	142 36	...	12 0	...	17th ... 30	... —
May	172 12	...	14 18	...	29th ... 29	... 2
June	181 48	...	14 6	...	3rd ... 26	... 4
July	142 24	...	14 30	...	5th ... 30	... 1
August	155 12	...	11 36	...	5th ... 28	... 3
September	118 0	...	11 6	...	13th ... 27	... 3
October	108 24	...	8 24	...	10th ... 26	... 5
November	86 24	...	7 42	...	11th ... 22	... 8
December	33 18	...	4 54	...	1st ... 18	... 13
Year	1390 00	...	14 30	...	5th July 301	... 65

Average daily amount of sunshine during the year:
3 hours 48 minutes.

RAINFALL in Inches and Hundredths

Height above sea level—OD. 27.98 ft.

1952	Total amount inches	Days of rain .01 in. or more		Greatest fall in 24 hours	Date
January	3.89	...	21	...	.60 ... 30th
February	1.07	...	8	...	.42 ... 10th
March	2.34	...	10	...	.45 ... 19th
April	3.27	...	14	...	.84 ... 21st
May	2.34	...	11	...	.66 ... 8th
June	4.35	...	15	...	1.16 ... 21st
July	1.35	...	12	...	.37 ... 31st
August	4.15	...	15	...	1.27 ... 9th
September	3.35	...	10	...	1.18 ... 28th
October	3.49	...	16	...	.94 ... 24th
November	1.96	...	12	...	1.07 ... 4th
December	4.30	...	22	...	.67 ... 22nd
Year	35.86	...	166	...	1.27 ... 9th Aug.

SHADE TEMPERATURE °F

1952	Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Highest Max.	Date	Lowest Min.	Date
January ...	42.6	32.3	51	6th, 15th	20	7th, 29th
February ...	43.6	33.7	52	29th	24	13th
March	49.7	39.7	60	7th	30	28th
April	55.2	42.9	70	30th	32	1st
May	62.8	49.9	79	16th	41	7th
June	62.2	52.0	75	13th	45	9th
July	66.7	56.3	82	6th	48	29th
August	65.1	55.0	71	30th	49	19th
September ...	57.6	47.5	65	3rd	36	20th
October	52.8	44.2	58	17th, 28th	34	10th
November ...	44.5	36.1	55	4th	24	25th
December ...	44.0	33.9	49	9th, 10th	26	2nd, 16th
Year	53.9	43.6	82	6th July	20	7th, 29th Jan.

WIND DIRECTION

1952	S.	S.W.	S.E.	W.	N.W.	N.	N.E.	E.	Calm Days
January	1	6	5	4	7	4	3	1	—
February ...	3	4	1	5	5	4	7	—	—
March	8	2	4	1	2	—	7	6	1
April	7	6	1	5	2	2	3	3	1
May	1	5	6	4	5	1	6	2	1
June	5	5	—	12	3	1	3	—	1
July	1	2	1	12	6	3	3	2	1
August	4	6	1	6	6	1	5	1	1
September .	1	1	1	5	5	4	11	2	—
October	3	3	6	6	2	3	3	5	—
November ...	1	—	2	1	4	3	12	7	—
December ...	6	3	5	4	3	1	5	4	—
Year	41	43	33	65	50	27	68	33	6

CLOUD

WIND

(Measured by Beaufort Scale)

1952	Mean Amount of Cloud 0-10	Mean Force of Wind 0-12	Gale Force 8 or over
January	5.80 Oktas.	..... 3.51	..... 1
February	6.00 „	..... 2.72 —
March	2.87 „	..... 3.77	..... 1
April	6.10 „	..... 2.90 —
May	6.29 „	..... 3.45 —
June	6.50 „	..... 3.42 —
July	5.97 „	..... 3.36 —
August	6.00 „	..... 3.16	..... 1
September	6.20 „	..... 4.40	..... 1
October	5.58 „	..... 3.06 —
November	4.97 „	..... 2.23 —
December	6.70 „	..... 2.52	..... 1
Year	5.74 „	..... 3.21	..... 5

VISITOR MODERN PRESS, MORECAMBE
